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NEWPORT (SALOP) URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

- of the -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

- for -

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NEWPORT (SALOP) URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH

COMMITTEE 1947.

Chairman:

Councillor Mrs. I. E. Stephens.

Committee:

Councillor	P. M. Carpendale,
"	J. L. Hartley.
"	P. W. T. Porter.
"	Mrs. S. A. Sandiford.
"	Mrs. V. H. Shenkin.
"	H. Ll. Smallman.
"	Rev. Fr. D. Smith.
"	S. H. Trumper.
"	G. S. Whitting.

Staff:

Medical Officer of Health:.....
W.A.M.Stewart, M.B., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Barrister at Law.

Surveyor, Sanitary Inspector and Water Engineer:
R. C. Bryan, M.S.I.A.

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INTERIM REPORT ON THE HEALTH AND SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF NEWPORT (SALOP) FOR THE YEAR 1947.

This Report is again presented in an abbreviated form to comply with the requirements of the Ministry of Health. More detailed information, however, has been given in relationship to factories and, in this connection, particulars, under separate cover, have been supplied to the Ministry of Labour.

Infectious Diseases. This has been a year of epidemic condition for Measles which has been accompanied by a considerable rise in the number of cases of Whooping Cough. This has followed the usual biennial incidence of this disease. Scarlet Fever has been almost constant with the numbers for 1946 - this representing a reasonable frequency of this complaint. Otherwise, infectious disease calls for no comment beyond that. Diphtheria again has been completely absent.

Acute Poliomyelitis. Despite the widespread nature of this epidemic over the Country generally in the late Summer and Autumn this district escaped completely.

Vital Statistics.

Births. The rate for this has been low which is unusual for a populace living under such local conditions. Again the Death Return in this age group is unexpected as the district escaped completely from infantile deaths.

General Deaths. This almost approximates with that of England and Wales.

Tuberculosis. The total cases on the Register continues to show a slight rise which follows the course generally prevailing. The Death Rate, however, is low one case only of the pulmonary disease dying.

Miscellaneous. Housing has again been the main interest and the Authority has made every effort to complete their new estate. It may be said that the results of their endeavours have been satisfactory and considerable progress has been made. Interest has also been taken in the control of ambulance service, and in such steps as can be taken in the prevention of accidents on the roads.

In presenting this Report the Medical Officer of Health takes this opportunity of thanking his Colleagues for their courtesy and continuous co-operation in the working of the Department and in the compilation of this Report.

SECTION "A".

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	768
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population	3678
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1947) according to Rate Books	1005
Rateable Value	£19,434.
Sum represented by one penny rate	£76.7s.1d.
Persons per acre (calculated on population)	4.8

POPULATION AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Registrar General's estimate of total population shows a slight rise, but very slight. To serve this very adequate shopping facilities are available in the town and a good service of buses radiate to all main centres in the area. The Educational centres in the district are of the best and all branches of child training can be served within the area. In the field of sport, recreation and amusement the needs of the community are amply met. Physical needs are met by the presence of football (both codes) and hockey in the winter, while cricket and tennis serve in the summer. For the more leisurely class there is a sound dramatic society and the finer arts receive close attention.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births	M.	F.	Total.
) Legitimate	29	33	62
) Illegitimate	1	2	3
Totals	30	35	65

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population 17.7
 Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population 20.5
 (England & Wales)

Still Births	M.	F.	Total.
) Legitimate	-	-	-
) Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	-

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births

Deaths	M.	F.	Total.
Total number of deaths	15	29	44
Death rate per 1,000 of population			11.9
Death Rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)			12.0

Infantile Mortality.

All Infants per 1,000 live births - - -
 All Infants per 1,000 live births (England & Wales) 41

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 live Legitimate Births. -

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births -

Total number of infant Deaths	M.	F.
Legitimate	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-

Deaths from:-

Cancer (all ages)	...	...	7
Measles (all ages)	...	...	-
Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	-

Maternal Mortality

Under this heading there were no deaths.

Chief Causes of Death

Tuberculosis (all forms)	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	-
Measles	...	...	...	-
Diphtheria	...	...	...	-
Maternal Causes	...	...	...	-
Cancer	...	...	...	7
Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	5
Heart Disease & Circulatory Disturbances				17
Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	-
Influenza	...	...	...	1
Nephritis	...	...	...	-
Premature Births & Congenital Malformations				-
Diabetes	...	...	...	1
Abdominal Disease	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	-
Violence	...	...	...	1

SECTION "B".

GENERAL PROVISION FOR HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Ambulance Service.

This service has been efficiently carried out by the Newport Voluntary Ambulance.

This will cease when the National Health Act comes into operation and the District will be served by the Salop County Council ambulances stationed at Donnington. It is expected that the District will be equally satisfactorily worked from this new centre.

Mortuary Service.

The Council provide a modern Mortuary at their depot in Salters Lane Newport jointly with Wellington Rural District Council. A good centre is available and all the needs of the surrounding area are adequately met.

SECTION "C".

REFUSE DISPOSAL AND COLLECTION.

Number of Parishes in district - 1.

Number of Parishes where refuse is collected - 1.

Frequency - Weekly.

Methods of collection (direct labour or contract) - Direct labour.

Mechanised or horse transport - Mechanised.

Methods of disposal (tipping or incineration) - Tipping.

Dustbins - Action has been taken under Section 75 Public Health Act 1936 to secure the provision of proper dust bins. 34

Notices were served and 21 bins were provided in cases where notices were not complied with.

Is controlled tipping in operation? - Yes.

General Observations - The provision of a modern low loading refuse collecting vehicle with proper covers is desirable.

Salvage.

System - Waste paper and cardboard have been collected from shops only.

Vehicles - Motor lorry.

Personnel - Scavenging staff.

Storage - At building in Vineyard Road, Newport.

Profit or Loss - Small loss.

Comments - The collection of waste paper and cardboard from all houses in the District will be re-organised during the ensuing year.

Disinfestation and Control of Vermin.

Rat Control -

Private Properties - Inspections were carried out under the Private Dwellings Scheme by the Salop County Council's staff and 10 cases of rat infestation were found.

Council Undertakings - The Council have contracts with the Salop County Council for treatment of rat infestation at the Sewage Outfall Works, Salvage Depot and Refuse tip.

Industrial and Public Undertakings - Central Slaughterhouse & Buffer Food Depot, Rodent control undertaken by Ministry of Food.

Vermin Control -

Person - No cases have been reported this year.

Clothes and Bedding - Treated in steam disinfector at Public Assistance Institution Newport by arrangement.

Homes - Disinfestation carried out in homes as required.

Comments -

Sewers - One treatment was given which resulted in one minor infestation being found in a manhole in Beaumaris Road.

Water.

1. No. and source of water schemes of which the District Council is the Water Undertaker - One - Boreholes at Baddeley's Wells Newport.

No. of houses served by (1) - 988
(in parishes separately)
Population served by (1) - 3672

2. No. and source of water schemes owned by private persons - None.

No. of houses served by (2) - None
Population served by (2) -

3. No. of houses served by private wells - 2
Population served by (3) - 6

4. No. of houses supplied by standpipe
(in parishes separately) - 117.

5. Has any water supply in the district been unsatisfactory in quality and/or quantity. If so, give particulars - Reserve supply at Baddeley's Wells.

5a. Chlorination - Carried out with electrically operated chlorinator.

6. Sampling -

Supply	No. of bact. exams.	No. of chem. exams.	Before After Chlorination.		Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory.
Borehole	5	Nil	4	1	5	-
Reserve supply	1	Nil	1	-	-	1

7. Extensions or repairs to Existing Water Works - Nil.
8. Extensions or repairs to Existing Water Mains - Nil.
- 8a. New connections, to homes etc., - 35.
9. Difficulties met with during year in relation to works or mains - such as lack of supply, pressure, machinery, breakdowns etc., - A length of 6" main (240 yards) in Upper Bar needs renewing.
10. New Water Works or Water Main Schemes inaugurated or work commenced - A Scheme is being prepared for a new borehole and increased storage.
11. General Observations.

The reserve supply at Baddeley's Wells is unsatisfactory in quantity and quality. It is proposed to provide a new borehole and pumping plant for main supply and use the existing main supply as a reserve.

Public Baths and Wash-Houses.

At present there are no facilities but the installation of public baths might be considered by the Authority more especially with so much child life centred in this town.

General Sanitary Matters Dealt with during Year.

1. Premises in such a state as to be a nuisance (excluding structural matters) - 4.
2. New closets or drains provided or old amended - 12.
3. Offensive Accumulations - 8.
4. Animals in such a state as to be a nuisance - Nil.
5. Smoke nuisance - 1.
6. Nuisances arising from water courses, ditches &c. - Nil.
7. Offensive Cases - Nil.
8. Common Lodging Houses - Nil.
9. Public Lavatories - A modern lavatory is provided in the town centre, but with the great volume of traffic in the summer this is found to be inadequate. The Authority are well aware of the position and efforts have been made to obtain a suitable site for larger premises.

Places of Entertainment.

There is a small cinema adjoining the Market Hall which is not a modern building and has seating accommodation for 435. The position and condition of the sanitary accommodation is unsatisfactory.

Elementary and Secondary Schools.

The sanitary accommodation at the Church of England and Catholic Schools requires improvement.

Sewers and Sewage Disposal.

1. No. of sewage works owned by District Council (Parishes) - 1.
- No. of houses dealt with by public sewers - 967.

2. No. of private sewage disposal works - 1.

No. of houses dealt with by these - Nil, National Grain Silo, Audley Avenue, Newport.

3. No. of houses with private or pail closets - 28.

4. Extensions or Repairs to existing Sewage Works or Sewers - Nil

5. New Schemes for works or sewers inaugurated during the year -
A Scheme has been prepared for the modernisation of the existing Sewage Disposal Works and duplication of a length of sewer.

6. Difficulties, if any, encountered in operating works or sewers
Siltage has occurred in a length of 12" sewer from Lower Bar towards Sewage Outfall Works.

7. General Observations - Nil

SECTION "D".

Housing.

New Council Houses.

Permanent Houses.

Total No. of Houses in schemes sanctioned by the Ministry of Health -

- (a) Traditional - 44.
- (b) Prefabricated - Nil.

Total No. of houses for which sites are prepared in 1947 - 64.

Total No. of Houses completed - 27.

No. of houses completed in 1947 - 27.

No. of houses in progress - 17.

New schemes inaugurated - 1.

Remarks - Nil

Temporary Houses - The erection of these have not been considered by the Authority.

New Private Houses.

No. of plans for new houses submitted - 9.

No. of plans for new houses passed and licenced - 9.

No. of new houses completed - 1.

No. of new houses in progress - 11.

Existing Houses.

Clearance Areas and Industrial Unfit Houses - 13 houses in Audley Road included in Clearance Area in 1936 are still occupied.

Re-conditioning - Nil

Overcrowding - There are a number of cases of overcrowding and these are being relieved as quickly as possible as the new houses become available.

Housing Repairs.

No. of Houses inspected under Public Health or Housing Acts - 27

No. of inspections made for the purpose - 40.

No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit by informal action - 9.

Action under Statutory Powers:-

(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act, 1936 -
No. of Houses requiring repair - 14.
No. of Houses rendered fit after formal action - Nil.
Demolition Order made - 2.

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts -
No. of Houses requiring repair - 13.
No. of Houses in which defects remedied after formal action - Nil

Council Houses.

Repairs and General Management.

The Surveyor is responsible for management and maintenance work is carried out by direct labour. Generally speaking the properties are well kept and painted at frequent intervals. Internal decoration is also in the hands of the Council. A few tenants do not live up to the standard which is expected and on the new estate their lack in this respect will receive the immediate censure of this Authority.

Army hutments occupied by squatters and under supervision by District Council - None.

Moveable Dwellings.

There are several caravans in the District and the Council are considering the licencing of these with a view to maintaining adequate control and supervision of hygiene.

General Observations.

A considerable number of the older houses need repairs or re-conditioning and these matters will receive consideration as circumstances permit.

SECTION "E".

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The District continues to be served from the central abattoir at Newport and such meat is subject to examination locally.

Food Premises.

No. of premises where food is sold, prepared or stored - 47.

No. of Inspections of above - 20.

Action taken in respect of deficiencies found under Section 13 (F & D Act 1938) - Nil

No. of Premises registered under Section 14 (F & D Act 1938)

(a) Manufacture or meat products - 11.
(b) Ice Cream manufacturers - 1.

No. of inspections of above - 24.

Action taken in respect of deficiencies found under Section 13 (F & D Act 1938) - Nil

OTHER FOODS INSPECTION.

Tinned Foods Condemned.			
		Miscellaneous.	
	No of tins	Kind of Food.	No of tins.
Meat.	46	Jam	11
Fish.	17		
Fruit.	205		
Vegetables.	34		
Milk.	16		

FRESH & DRIED FOODS CONDEMNED.

Fish.		Fruit.	
Kind	Weight in lbs	Kind	Weight in lbs
	N I L	N I L	

Vegetables.		Miscellaneous.	
Kind	Weight in lbs	Kind	Weight in lbs
N I L		Sausages	12
		Bacon	6½
		Sweets	8¾
		Oatmeal	28
		Eggs	10 dozen

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	CATTLE including cows	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP & LAMBS	PIGS
Number killed (if known) (approx)	807	-	816	2,516	44
All diseases except Tuberculosis				74	
Whole carcasses condemned	9	-	18	29	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcasses condemned	15	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-

1. Number of Slaughter Houses in district - 1.
2. Number of persons licenced to stun and slaughter animals in slaughter houses and knacker's yards - 11.
3. Action taken with regard to inspections of slaughter houses, shops, stalls, and vehicles, and places where food is prepared -

Central Slaughterhouse - Complaints were made to the Area Slaughterhouse Agent respecting disposal of manure, condition of Fasting Pens and general cleanliness. Shops and premises where food is prepared have also been inspected.

4. Remarks - Some improvement has taken place at Central Slaughterhouse, but conditions are still unsatisfactory.

Ice Cream.

There is one licensed manufacturer in the Urban District who makes a small quantity for sale in his own cafe.

There are 8 retailers, including the above-mentioned manufacturer.

In the storage of this commodity for sale close supervision is essential if the desired conditions under the Food and Drugs Act are to be maintained.

Milk.

No. of cowkeepers and milksellers on register - 13.

No. of premises - cowsheds - 7
dairies - 8
milkshops - 1

No. of above cowkeepers and milksellers who hold licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936 in respect of :-

	Tuberculin Tested.	Accred- ited.	Pasteur- ised.
(a) establishments of producers and bottlers.	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) establishments of producers only.	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) establishments of bottlers only.	2	Nil	Nil
(d) shops and other premises not being the establishment at which the milk is produced or bottled.	Nil	Nil	Nil
(e) supplementary licences to sell milk from shops or other establishment outside the area of the licensing authority.	Nil	Nil	1

No. of inspections - 20

Action taken with regard to defects found - Cowkeepers attention called to various matters in relation to cleanliness of premises.

Comments.

Some of the older cowsheds require reconditioning or re-building.

SECTION "F".

FACTORIES ACT 1937.

Part 1.

Inspections.	No. on Regis- ter.	No. of inspec- tions.	No. of Written Notices.	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted.
(1) Factories in which 1,2,3,4 & 6 sections are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	20	28	Nil	Nil
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	9	12	Nil	Nil
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	29	40	Nil	Nil

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspec.	By H.M. Inspec. Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness.				
Overcrowding.				
Unreasonable Temperature.				
Inadequate Ventilation.				
Ineffective drainage of floors.			N	I L
Sanitary Conveniences.				
(a) insufficient.				
(b) unsuitable or defective.				
(c) not separate for sexes.				
Other offences against the Act.				
Total			N	I L

SECTION 9.

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and Allied Diseases.

The following tables gives the number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year, together with the number of deaths:-

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Cases notified.</u>		<u>Deaths.</u>
	<u>1946.</u>	<u>1947.</u>	
Scarlet Fever	13	14	-
Whooping Cough	12	44	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	7	152	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	6	5	-
Dysentery	1	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-
Cerebrospinal Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	2	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-

Incidence of Disease in Various Age Groups.

Years	Scarlet Fever.		Whooping Cough.		Measles.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0	-	-	2	-	1	2
1	1	-	5	8	11	11
3	-	1	11	9	23	15
5	2	1	3	3	40	39
10	1	1	2	-	2	2
15	-	5	-	1	1	1
25	-	2	-	-	-	4
age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	10	23	21	78	74

Years	Pneumonia	
	Male	Female
0	1	2
5	-	-
15	1	-
45	1	-
65	-	-
Age unknown	-	-
TOTAL	3	2

Scabies.

Since the closure of the local centre little has been heard of this complaint. It would seem that the few cases which come to notice can be adequately treated by the County Authority through their Health Visitors and Clinics.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

This continues under the dual control of the County Authority and the District Department. The former being responsible for the clinical administration of this service.

	Over 1 but under 5 years.	5 years but under 15.	Total.
No. of children immunised.	157	405	562
Estimated child population.	290	510	800
Approximate percentage.	54%	79%	

Tuberculosis.

The number of notified cases, on the Register at December 31st 1947, and the comparative numbers for 1945 and 1946 are as follows:-

	<u>Males.</u>		<u>Females.</u>		
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
1945	9	12	5	23	49
1946	10	14	5	22	51
1947	10	14	6	24	54

New Cases.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	<u>Total</u>
	3	2	5

Death Rates.

England & Wales.

Death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 1,000 population	.272	.470
Death rate from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 1,000 population.	-	.079
Total Death Rate (all forms)	.272	.549

There was 1 death from Pulmonary and none from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality Table, 1947.

Age group.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
65 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	2	-	2	-	1	-	-

Cancer.

The number of deaths from Cancer in 1947 was 2 males and 5 females.

Total - 7.

Death Rate per 1,000,000 living

England & Wales.

1903

1853

W.A.M. STEWART.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

6th August, 1948.

